(b) and (c) The Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) approved a rehabilitation scheme for IISCO in November, 2003. The scheme approved the closure of Kulti Works as it was found to be economically unviable. The operation of Kulti Works was closed with effect from 1st April, 2003 and there is no plan for its revival.

Meanwhile, under the Corporate Plan-2012 for IISCO, Burnpur works will be upgraded to produce 2 million tonnes per year (MTPY) of crude steel in 2011-2012, from a level of 0.35 million tonne (MT) in 2004-05. The plan also envisages development of collieries to enhance coking coal production to 1 MTPY. Chiria Iron Ore Mines will be developed to produce 7 MTPY of iron ore. Total investment considered for implementing the corporate plan is Rs.8,017 crore.

For optimum utilisation of raw material resources of IISCO and harnessing the synergies between IISCO and SAIL, Government has accorded approval to merge IISCO with SAIL.

National Accreditation Board

*46. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced formation of a task force comprising experts from the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, Tourism, Railways, External Affairs, Civil Aviation and Director General of Health Services to suggest strengthening the policy measures and norms for National Accreditation Board to provide accreditation to private hospitals;

(b) whether Government will also come out with Clinical Establishment Act;

(c) whether Government have also announced that policy decision for granting of medical visa will also be considered; and

(c) if not, by when the scheme would be made operational; and

(d) the launch status of other passenger-friendly services by Railways, like bundling of hotel service alongwith train ticket bookings?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) to (c) The required software for putting the upgradation scheme of passengers is under development and the scheme will be implemented when the software is ready.

(d) There is no proposal at present to make hotel booking while booking the train ticket.

Dioxins in eggs

*48. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI:
DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an NGO called "Toxics Link" has reported that eggs produced in the country contain high level of dioxins which is a poisonous chemical;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Samples of free-range chicken eggs collected by a Non Governmental Organization, "Toxics Link", from a source in close proximity to the medical waste incinerator of the Queen Mary's Hospital, Lucknow were reportedly found to contain dioxins, which may cause adverse health effects.

(c) Adoption of proper techniques to manage waste leads to avoidance or minimization of the release of dioxins and their entry into food chain.